

FILED

May 23, 2005

**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW &
PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF

ANGELA R. TUCKER, M.D.
License No. MA58535

TO PRACTICE MEDICINE AND SURGERY
IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

:
:
:
: Administrative Action
:
: FINAL ORDER
: OF DISCIPLINE
:
:

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and on which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made;

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Respondent, Angela R. Tucker, M.D., is the holder of License No. MA58535 and was licensed to practice medicine and surgery in the State of New Jersey from 1992 until 1997 after which time Respondent permitted that license to lapse.

2. On or about July 2, 2004, the New York State, Department of Health, State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, ("New York Board") filed a Statement of Charges in which Respondent was charged with practicing the profession of medicine fraudulently. Specifically, the New York Board alleged that Respondent, with intent to defraud, filed Medicaid claims for thirty dollars (\$30) each for patients A and B, whom she knew she had not examined, and

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

for whom she wrote prescriptions for medications, including Singulair, Viagra, Zocor (Patients A and B), Celebrex (Patient A), Prevacid (Patient A), and Vioxx (Patient B). On or about July 16, 2004, the New York Board filed a Surrender Order adopting the terms of a Surrender of License agreement executed by Respondent on June 18, 2004. Pursuant to the terms of the Surrender of License agreement, Respondent surrendered her license as a physician in the State of New York on the grounds that she would not contest the First Specification of practicing the profession of medicine fraudulently, in full satisfaction of the charges against her. (Copies of the Orders and available supporting materials are annexed hereto and made a part hereof).

CONCLUSION OF LAW

1. The above disciplinary action taken by the sister state of New York provides grounds to take disciplinary action against Respondent's license to practice medicine and surgery in New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(g), in that, Respondent's surrender of her New York license to practice medicine is tantamount to a suspension or revocation.

2. Respondent's failure to submit her biennial renewal in 1997 resulting in a lapsed license status provides grounds to automatically suspend Respondent's license to practice medicine and surgery in the State of New Jersey pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-7.1(b).

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline suspending Respondent's license to practice medicine and surgery in the State of New Jersey was entered on December 27, 2004 and a copy was forwarded to Respondent at the last known address on file with the Board. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry unless Respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting Respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Although the Provisional Order sent by means of certified mail was returned as "unclaimed", the regular mail was not returned. Because the Order was forwarded to Respondent's address of record, the Board deems service to have been effected. Accordingly, it determined that further proceedings were not necessary and that the Provisional Order should be made final.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 23rd day of May, 2005,
ORDERED AND AGREED THAT:

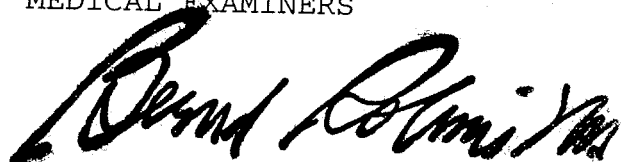
1. Respondent's license to practice medicine and surgery in the State of New Jersey is suspended until such time as

Respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of New York is fully reinstated.

2. Prior to resuming active practice in New Jersey, Respondent shall be required to appear before the Board or a committee thereof, to demonstrate fitness to resume practice, to show that Respondent has satisfied all requirements of any New York disposition and is reinstated to the practice of medicine in that State. Any practice in this State prior to reinstatement shall constitute grounds for the charge of unlicensed practice. In addition, the Board reserves the right to place restrictions on Respondent's practice should Respondent's license be reinstated.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF
MEDICAL EXAMINERS

By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bernard Robins", written over a horizontal line.

Bernard Robins, M.D., F.A.C.P.
Board President

**DIRECTIVES APPLICABLE TO ANY MEDICAL BOARD LICENSEE
WHO IS DISCIPLINED OR WHOSE SURRENDER OF LICENSURE
HAS BEEN ACCEPTED**

APPROVED BY THE BOARD ON MAY 10, 2000

All licensees who are the subject of a disciplinary order of the Board are required to provide the information required on the Addendum to these Directives. The information provided will be maintained separately and will not be part of the public document filed with the Board. Failure to provide the information required may result in further disciplinary action for failing to cooperate with the Board, as required by N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1 et seq. Paragraphs 1 through 4 below shall apply when a license is suspended or revoked or permanently surrendered, with or without prejudice. Paragraph 5 applies to licensees who are the subject of an order which, while permitting continued practice, contains a probation or monitoring requirement.

1. Document Return and Agency Notification

The licensee shall promptly forward to the Board office at Post Office Box 183, 140 East Front Street, 2nd floor, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0183, the original license, current biennial registration and, if applicable, the original CDS registration. In addition, if the licensee holds a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) registration, he or she shall promptly advise the DEA of the licensure action. (With respect to suspensions of a finite term, at the conclusion of the term, the licensee may contact the Board office for the return of the documents previously surrendered to the Board. In addition, at the conclusion of the term, the licensee should contact the DEA to advise of the resumption of practice and to ascertain the impact of that change upon his/her DEA registration.)

2. Practice Cessation

The licensee shall cease and desist from engaging in the practice of medicine in this State. This prohibition not only bars a licensee from rendering professional services, but also from providing an opinion as to professional practice or its application, or representing him/herself as being eligible to practice. (Although the licensee need not affirmatively advise patients or others of the revocation, suspension or surrender, the licensee must truthfully disclose his/her licensure status in response to inquiry.) The disciplined licensee is also prohibited from occupying, sharing or using office space in which another licensee provides health care services. The disciplined licensee may contract for, accept payment from another licensee for or rent at fair market value office premises and/or equipment. In no case may the disciplined licensee authorize, allow or condone the use of his/her provider number by any health care practice or any other licensee or health care provider. (In situations where the licensee has been suspended for less than one year, the licensee may accept payment from another professional who is using his/her office during the period that the licensee is suspended, for the payment of salaries for office staff employed at the time of the Board action.)

A licensee whose license has been revoked, suspended for one (1) year or more or permanently surrendered must remove signs and take affirmative action to stop advertisements by which his/her eligibility to practice is represented. The licensee must also take steps to remove his/her name from professional listings, telephone directories, professional stationery, or billings. If the licensee's name is utilized in a group practice title, it shall be deleted. Prescription pads bearing the licensee's name shall be destroyed. A destruction report form obtained from the Office of Drug Control (973-504-6558) must be filed. If no other licensee is providing services at the location, all medications must be removed and returned to the manufacturer, if possible, destroyed or safeguarded. (In situations where a license has been suspended for less than one year, prescription pads and medications need not be destroyed but must be secured in a locked place for safekeeping.)

3. Practice Income Prohibitions/Divestiture of Equity Interest in Professional Service Corporations and Limited Liability Companies

A licensee shall not charge, receive or share in any fee for professional services rendered by him/herself or others while barred from engaging in the professional practice. The licensee may be compensated for the reasonable value of services lawfully rendered and disbursements incurred on a patient's behalf prior to the effective date of the Board action.

A licensee who is a shareholder in a professional service corporation organized to engage in the professional practice, whose license is revoked, surrendered or suspended for a term of one (1) year or more shall be deemed to be disqualified from the practice within the meaning of the Professional Service Corporation Act. (N.J.S.A. 14A:17-11). A disqualified licensee shall divest him/herself of all financial interest in the professional service corporation pursuant to N.J.S.A. 14A:17-13(c). A licensee who is a member of a limited liability company organized pursuant to N.J.S.A. 42:1-44, shall divest him/herself of all financial interest. Such divestiture shall occur within 90 days following the entry of the Order rendering the licensee disqualified to participate in the applicable form of ownership. Upon divestiture, a licensee shall forward to the Board a copy of documentation forwarded to the Secretary of State, Commercial Reporting Division, demonstrating that the interest has been terminated. If the licensee is the sole shareholder in a professional service corporation, the corporation must be dissolved within 90 days of the licensee's disqualification.

4. Medical Records

If, as a result of the Board's action, a practice is closed or transferred to another location, the licensee shall ensure that during the three (3) month period following the effective date of the disciplinary order, a message will be delivered to patients calling the former office premises, advising where records may be obtained. The message should inform patients of the names and telephone numbers of the licensee (or his/her attorney) assuming custody of the records. The same information shall also be disseminated by means of a notice to be published at least once per month for three (3) months in a newspaper of

general circulation in the geographic vicinity in which the practice was conducted. At the end of the three month period, the licensee shall file with the Board the name and telephone number of the contact person who will have access to medical records of former patients. Any change in that individual or his/her telephone number shall be promptly reported to the Board. When a patient or his/her representative requests a copy of his/her medical record or asks that record be forwarded to another health care provider, the licensee shall promptly provide the record without charge to the patient.

5. Probation/Monitoring Conditions

With respect to any licensee who is the subject of any Order imposing a probation or monitoring requirement or a stay of an active suspension, in whole or in part, which is conditioned upon compliance with a probation or monitoring requirement, the licensee shall fully cooperate with the Board and its designated representatives, including the Enforcement Bureau of the Division of Consumer Affairs, in ongoing monitoring of the licensee's status and practice. Such monitoring shall be at the expense of the disciplined practitioner.

(a) Monitoring of practice conditions may include, but is not limited to, inspection of the professional premises and equipment, and inspection and copying of patient records (confidentiality of patient identity shall be protected by the Board) to verify compliance with the Board Order and accepted standards of practice.

(b) Monitoring of status conditions for an impaired practitioner may include, but is not limited to, practitioner cooperation in providing releases permitting unrestricted access to records and other information to the extent permitted by law from any treatment facility, other treating practitioner, support group or other individual/facility involved in the education, treatment, monitoring or oversight of the practitioner, or maintained by a rehabilitation program for impaired practitioners. If bodily substance monitoring has been ordered, the practitioner shall fully cooperate by responding to a demand for breath, blood, urine or other sample in a timely manner and providing the designated sample.

ADDENDUM

Any licensee who is the subject of an order of the Board suspending, revoking or otherwise conditioning the license, shall provide the following information at the time that the order is signed, if it is entered by consent, or immediately after service of a fully executed order entered after a hearing. The information required here is necessary for the Board to fulfill its reporting obligations:

Social Security Number¹: _____

List the Name and Address of any and all Health Care Facilities with which you are affiliated:

List the Names and Address of any and all Health Maintenance Organizations with which you are affiliated:

Provide the names and addresses of every person with whom you are associated in your professional practice: (You may attach a blank sheet of stationery bearing this information).

¹ Pursuant to 45 CFR-Subtitle A Section 61.7 and 45 CFR Subtitle A Section 60.8, the Board is required to obtain your Social Security Number and/or federal taxpayer identification number in order to discharge its responsibility to report adverse actions to the National Practitioner Data Bank and the HIP Data Bank.

NOTICE OF REPORTING PRACTICES OF BOARD
REGARDING DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-3(3), all orders of the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners are available for public inspection. Should any inquiry be made concerning the status of a licensee, the inquirer will be informed of the existence of the order and a copy will be provided if requested. All evidentiary hearings, proceedings on motions or other applications which are conducted as public hearings and the record, including the transcript and documents marked in evidence, are available for public inspection, upon request.

Pursuant to 45 CFR Subtitle A 60.8, the Board is obligated to report to the National Practitioners Data Bank any action relating to a physician which is based on reasons relating to professional competence or professional conduct:

- (1) Which revokes or suspends (or otherwise restricts) a license,
- (2) Which censures, reprimands or places on probation,
- (3) Under which a license is surrendered.

Pursuant to 45 CFR Section 61.7, the Board is obligated to report to the Healthcare Integrity and Protection (HIP) Data Bank, any formal or official actions, such as revocation or suspension of a license (and the length of any such suspension), reprimand, censure or probation or any other loss of license or the right to apply for, or renew, a license of the provider, supplier, or practitioner, whether by operation of law, voluntary surrender, non-renewability, or otherwise, or any other negative action or finding by such Federal or State agency that is publicly available information.

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:9-19.13, if the Board refuses to issue, suspends, revokes or otherwise places conditions on a license or permit, it is obligated to notify each licensed health care facility and health maintenance organization with which a licensee is affiliated and every other board licensee in this state with whom he or she is directly associated in private medical practice.

In accordance with an agreement with the Federation of State Medical Boards of the United States, a list of all disciplinary orders are provided to that organization on a monthly basis.

Within the month following entry of an order, a summary of the order will appear on the public agenda for the next monthly Board meeting and is forwarded to those members of the public requesting a copy. In addition, the same summary will appear in the minutes of that Board meeting, which are also made available to those requesting a copy.

Within the month following entry of an order, a summary of the order will appear in a Monthly Disciplinary Action Listing which is made available to those members of the public requesting a copy.

On a periodic basis the Board disseminates to its licensees a newsletter which includes a brief description of all of the orders entered by the Board.

From time to time, the Press Office of the Division of Consumer Affairs may issue releases including the summaries of the content of public orders.

Nothing herein is intended in any way to limit the Board, the Division or the Attorney General from disclosing any public document.

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER
OF
ANGELA ROSEMARIE TUCKER, M.D.

SURRENDER
ORDER

BPMC No. 04-156

Upon the application of ANGELA ROSEMARIE TUCKER, M.D., (Respondent) to Surrender her license as a physician in the State of New York, which is made a part of this Surrender Order, it is

ORDERED, that the Surrender, and its terms, are adopted and SO ORDERED, and it is further

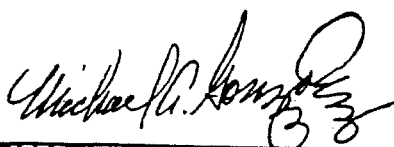
ORDERED, that the name of Respondent be stricken from the roster of physicians in the State of New York; it is further

ORDERED, that this Order shall be effective upon issuance by the Board, either

- by mailing of a copy of this Consent Order, either by first class mail to Respondent at the address in the attached Consent Agreement or by certified mail to Respondent's attorney, OR
- upon facsimile transmission to Respondent or Respondent's attorney, Whichever is first.

SO ORDERED.

DATED: 7-16-04


MICHAEL A. GONZALEZ, R.P.A.
Vice Chair
State Board for Professional Medical Conduct

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

IN THE MATTER
OF
ANGELA ROSEMARIE TUCKER, M.D.

SURRENDER
of
LICENSE

ANGELA ROSEMARIE TUCKER, M.D., representing that all of the following statements are true, deposes and says:

That on or about March 30, 1994 I was licensed to practice as a physician in the State of New York, and issued License No.195258 by the New York State Education Department.

My current address is 4 UNION ROAD Spring Valley, N.Y., and I will advise the Director of the Office of Professional Medical Conduct of any change of address.

I understand that the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct has charged me with one specification of professional misconduct.

A copy of the Statement of Charges, marked as Exhibit "A", is attached to and part of this Surrender of License.

I am applying to the State Board for Professional Medical Conduct for permission to surrender my license as a physician in the State of New York on the grounds that I do not contest the First Specification, Fraudulent Practice, in full satisfaction of the charges against me.

I ask the Board to accept the Surrender of my License.

I understand that if the Board does not accept this Surrender, none of its terms shall bind me or constitute an admission of any of the acts of alleged misconduct; this application shall not be used against me in any way and shall be kept in strict confidence; and the Board's denial shall be without prejudice to the pending disciplinary proceeding and the Board's final determination pursuant to the Public Health Law.

I agree that, if the Board accepts the Surrender of my License, the Chair of the Board shall issue a Surrender Order in accordance with its terms. I agree that this Order shall take effect upon its issuance by the Board, either by mailing of a copy of the Surrender Order by first class mail to me at the address in this Surrender of License, or to my attorney by certified mail, OR upon facsimile transmission to me or my attorney, whichever is first.

I ask the Board to accept this Surrender of License of my own free will and not under duress, compulsion or restraint. In consideration of the value to me of the Board's acceptance of this Surrender of License, allowing me to resolve this matter without the various risks and burdens of a hearing on the merits, I knowingly waive my right to contest the Surrender Order for which I apply, whether administratively or judicially, and I agree to be bound by the Surrender Order.

DATED June 18 2004

Angela Tucker
ANGELA ROSEMARIE TUCKER, M.D.
RESPONDENT

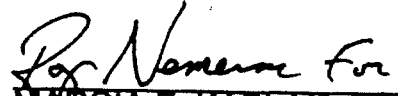
The undersigned agree to Respondent's attached Surrender of License and to its proposed penalty, terms and conditions.

DATE: 6/18/04



DAVID HOWE, ESQ.
Attorney for Respondent

DATE: 7/2/04



MARCIA E. KAPLAN
Associate Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

DATE: 7/14/04



DENNIS J. GRAZIANO
Director
Office of Professional Medical Conduct

EXHIBIT "A"

NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
STATE BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL MEDICAL CONDUCT

**IN THE MATTER
OF
ANGELA ROSEMARIE TUCKER, M.D.**

**STATEMENT
OF
CHARGES**

ANGELA ROSEMARIE TUCKER, M.D., the Respondent, was authorized to practice medicine in New York State on or about March 30, 1994, by the issuance of license number 195258 by the New York State Education Department.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- A. On or about August 14, 2003, in The Bronx, N.Y., with respect to Patient A, and on or about September 8, 2003, in Spring Valley, N.Y., with respect to Patient B, Respondent, with intent to defraud, filed Medicaid claims for \$30 each, falsely stating that she had performed evaluations of Patients A and B, whom she knew she had not examined, and for whom she wrote prescriptions for medications including Singulair, Viagra, Zocor (Patients A and B), Celebrex (Patient A), Prevacid (Patient A), and Vioxx (Patient B).

SPECIFICATION OF CHARGES

FIRST SPECIFICATION

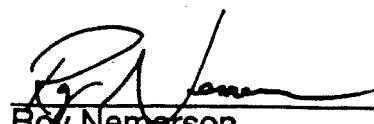
FRAUDULENT PRACTICE

Respondent is charged with committing professional misconduct as defined by N.Y. Educ. Law §6530(2) by practicing the profession of medicine fraudulently as alleged in the facts of the following:

1. Paragraph A.

DATED:

July 2
~~April~~, 2004
New York, New York



Roy Nemerson
Deputy Counsel
Bureau of Professional Medical Conduct

EXHIBIT "B"

GUIDELINES FOR CLOSING A MEDICAL PRACTICE FOLLOWING A REVOCATION, SURRENDER OR SUSPENSION (of 6 months or more) OF A MEDICAL LICENSE

1. Respondent shall immediately cease and desist the practice of medicine in compliance with the terms of the Surrender Order. Respondent shall not represent herself as eligible to practice medicine and shall refrain from providing an opinion as to professional practice or its application.
2. Within fifteen (15) days of the Surrender Order's effective date, Respondent shall notify all patients that she has ceased the practice of medicine, and shall refer all patients to another licensed practicing physician for their continued care, as appropriate.
3. Within thirty (30) days of the Surrender Order's effective date, Respondent shall have her original license to practice medicine in New York State and current biennial registration delivered to the Office of Professional Medical Conduct (OPMC) at 433 River Street Suite 303, Troy, NY 12180-2299.
4. Respondent shall arrange for the transfer and maintenance of all patient medical records. Within thirty (30) days of the Surrender Order's effective date, Respondent shall notify OPMC of these arrangements, including the name, address, and telephone number of an appropriate contact person, acceptable to the Director of OPMC, who shall have access to these records. Original records shall be retained for patients for at least six (6) years after the last date of service, and, for minors, at least six (6) years after the last date of service or three (3) years after the patient reaches the age of majority, whichever time period is longer. Records shall be maintained in a safe and secure place that is reasonably accessible to former patients. The arrangements shall ensure that all patient information is kept confidential and is available only to authorized persons. When a patient or authorized representative requests a copy of the patient's medical record, or requests that the original medical record be sent to another health care provider, a copy of the record shall be promptly provided or sent at reasonable cost to the patient (not to exceed seventy-five cents per page.) Radiographic, sonographic and like materials shall be provided at cost. A qualified person shall not be denied access to patient information solely because of inability to pay.
5. Within fifteen (15) days of the Order's effective date, if Respondent holds a Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) certificate, Respondent shall advise the DEA in writing of the licensure action and shall surrender her DEA controlled substance certificate, privileges, and any used DEA #222 U.S. Official Order Forms Schedules 1 and 2, to the DEA.
6. Within fifteen (15) days of the Order's effective date, Respondent shall return any unused New York State official prescription forms to the Bureau of Controlled Substances of the New York State Department of Health. Respondent shall have all prescription pads bearing Respondent's name destroyed. If no other licensee is providing services at her practice location, Respondent shall dispose of all medications.

7. Within fifteen (15) days of the Order's effective date, Respondent shall remove from the public domain any representation that Respondent practices medicine, including all related signs, advertisements, listings whether in telephone directories or otherwise, professional office or billings. Respondent shall not share, occupy or use office space if another licensee provides health care services.
8. Respondent shall not charge, receive or share any fee or dividends for professional services rendered (by herself or if barred from practicing medicine. Respondent may receive the reasonable value of services lawfully rendered, and disbursements incurred on a patient's behalf, prior to the Order's effective date.
9. If Respondent is a shareholder in any professional service corporation organized to engage in the practice of medicine and Respondent's license is revoked, surrendered or suspended for six (6) months or more by the Order, Respondent shall, within ninety (90) days of the Order's effective date, divest herself of all financial interest in such professional service corporation in accordance with New York Business Corporation Law. If Respondent is a sole shareholder in a professional services corporation, the corporation shall be dissolved or sold within ninety (90) days of the Order's effective date.
10. Failure to comply with the above directives may result in civil penalties. Practicing medicine when a medical license has been revoked or annulled is a Class E Felony, punishable by imprisonment for up to four (4) years, under Section 6512 of the Education Law. Professional misconduct may result in penalties including revocation of the license and/or fines of up to \$10,000 for each specification of misconduct under Section 230-a of the Public Health Law.